

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 IO-14 TRSE-00 AID-20

SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 DRC-01 /134 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3570

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E.O.. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, CU, MX, US

SUBJ: RABASA MEETING WITH PRES. FORD HEDALINED

1. THIS MORNING'S MEXICO CITY PRESS GAVE EVEN MORE ATTENTION TO UNEXPECTED MEETING BETWEEN FONSEC RABASA AND PRESIDENT FORD THAN TO PLIGHT OF PRES. ECHEVERRIA'S KIDNAPPED FATHER-IN-LAW. GOM-CONTROLLED NACIONAL HEADLINED PRES. FORD'S EXPRESSED DESIRE TO MEET WITH ECHEVERRIA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE (AT MUTUALLY AGREEABLE PLACE AND DATE), AND FOLLOWED WITH ACCOUNT OF MEETING WHICH PROBABLY DRAWN FROM RABASA'S OWN REPORT TO FOREIGN SECRETARIAT.

2. ACCORDING TO NACIONAL, PRESIDENT FORD WAS ANXIOUS TO DISCUSS WITH ECHEVERRIA THE RESULTS OF HIS RECENT TRIP TO SOUTH AMERICA AND JAMAICA AND GET HIS OPINION ON CURRENT SITUATION IN LATIN AMERICA GENERALLY. ALSO ASKED RABASA TO TRANSMIT HIS CONCERN AT ZUNO KIDNAPPING AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT HE WOULD BE RESCUED SOON.

3. REPORT STATES RABASA THEN BROUGHT UP BRACERO QUESTION AND REITERATED MEXICO'S DESIRE FOR AN AGREEMENT FIXING AN ANNUAL QUOTA, KEYED TO AVAILABILITY OF LABORERS AND ACTUAL
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NEED, AND PRESCRIBING CONDITIONS FOR THEIR JUST AND

HUUMANE TREATMENT WHILE IN U.S. RABASA TOLD PRESIDENT THAT ORGANIZED LABOR IN U.S. WAS OPPOSED TO BRACERO AGREEMENT AND ASKED THAT HE EXPLAIN TO GEORGE MEANY THE INTERESTS OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS IN SIGNING SUCH AN AGREEMENT. NACIONAL SAYS PRESIDENT TURNED TO SECRETARY KISSINGER AND TOLD HIM TO OUTLINE THE FACTS OF THE SITUATION TO MEANY AND SEE WHETHER HE MIGHT RECONSIDER HIS POSITION.

4. IN A SEPARATE AFP DISPATCH, NACIONAL REPORTS RABASA TOLD KISSINGER HE HOPED U.S. WOULD VOTE TO LIFT CUBA SANCTIONS WITHIN OAS AND WOULD NOT OPPOSE CUBA'S PARTICIPATION AT UPCOMING BUENOS AIRES MF. DISPATCH ADDS THAT PRESIDENT FORD HAD INDICATED, DURING WEDNESDAY PRESS CONFERENCE, U.S. READINESS TO MODIFY ITS RELATIONS WITH CUBA AND LIFT OAS SANCTIONS.
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